## Message Text

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**ORIGIN EA-14** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SY-10 FBIE-00 /102 R

DRAFTED BY EA/VN:OABARTLEY:JCM APPROVED BY EA:MSTEARNS EA/VN:RHWENZEL

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P 252240Z JAN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS, PINT, VS

SUBJ: DEMONSTRATION AT GVN INFORMATION OFFICE

- 1. AT NOON 25 JANUARY SMALL GROUP REPORTED TO REPRESENT VIET-NAM VETERANS AGAINST THE WAR ENTERED AND BRIEFLY OCCUPIED VIET-NAM INFORMATION OFFICE IN WASHINGTON. ONLY ONE OR TWO CLERICAL MEMBERS OF VIET-NAM STAFF PRESENT AT BEGINNING OF DEMONSTRATION BECAUSE OF LUNCH HOUR. VIET-NAM STAFFERS DENIED ACCESS TO TELEPHONE WHILE DRAPERIES AND CUSHIONS WERE PILED UP IN WHAT EMBASSY BELIEVES WAS PREPARATION FOR ARSON. POLICE ARRIVAL PREVENTED FURTHER DAMAGE AND THERE WERE NO INJURIES. FOUR MEN AND ONE WOMAN (ALL AMERICANS) WERE ARRESTED.
- 2. POLICE REPORTS HAD INDICATED PROBABILITY OF DEMONSTRATION AND MARCH ON DEPARTMENT OR GVN OFFICES FOR 26 JANUARY (STILL A POSSIBILITY), BUT TODAY'S AFFAIR WAS COMPLETE SURPRISE.
- 3. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY STEARNS EXPRESSED OUR REGRET TO AMBASSADOR PHUONG. PHUONG INDICATED HE WOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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BE SENDNG PRO FORMA NOTE OF PROTEST BUT HE DID NOT

APPEAR AGITATED. POLICE AND EXECUTIVE PROTECTION SERVICE, AT DEPARTMENT'S REQUEST, HAVE ESTABLISHED FULLTIME SECURITY AT ALL GVN OFFICES FOR TIME BEING.

4. SHOULD YOU WISH INFORM MFA AND/OR OVERSEAS INFORMATION AGENCY, SUGGEST YOU STRESS THAT DAMAGE WAS INSIGNIFICANT, AND THAT THERE WERE NO INJURIES OF ANY SORT. KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, DIPLOMATIC NOTES, ARRESTS, POLICE PROTECTION RIGHTS

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